

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 331

By Rinks

A RESOLUTION to honor Jim Rout of Memphis for meritorious service on the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this body should pause to honor members of the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, upon the completion of their terms, who have performed their duties with the utmost integrity and whose efforts have ensured proper attention to myriad issues in fulfillment of the Commission's mission to serve as a forum for the discussion and resolution of intergovernmental problems, to provide high-quality research support to state and local government officials in order to improve the overall quality of government in Tennessee, and to improve the effectiveness of the intergovernmental system to better serve the citizens of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Jim Rout served four terms as a member of the Shelby County Board of Commissioners from 1978 to 1994, where he was recognized as a leader in health care and fiscal management before being elected to the first of two terms as Mayor of Shelby County in 1994; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure as Mayor, Mr. Rout led the development of the Memphis 2005 strategic plan, resulting in record economic growth and historic levels of new business investment, produced the first master plan for city and county schools' capital needs, a \$655

million investment in schools over eight years, and led the creation of numerous civic commissions and organizations, addressing issues ranging from crime prevention to public health to support of the arts; and

WHEREAS, in his second term as Mayor, Mr. Rout worked to increase the focus on regional issues as the architect of a national conference on regionalism and the Alliance for Regional Excellence, a three-state planning program that is setting priorities for the Memphis region and setting an example for regional cooperation; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure as Mayor, Jim Rout became a member of the Board of Trustees for Partners for Livable Communities in Washington, D.C., and now serves as Chairman of that board; and

WHEREAS, in 1995, during the second year of his first term as Mayor of Shelby County, Jim Rout was appointed by Governor Don Sundquist to represent his fellow county officials on the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, in which post he served seven years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rout epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Jim Rout for his dedicated service to the good people of this great State as a member of the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.